

OPM-11

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Austria Bureau

FROM:

Chief, Operations Group

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

November 1988

STAT

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.	C/Ops		27 Dec	JS	
2.					
3.	C/E&PS		12/27	R	
4.	DD/FBIS				
5.	D/FBIS			JB	
6.					
7.	PO/RA				
8.	SA/CD		28 Dec	CD	
9.					
10.	C/AS		12/29	BB	
11.	C/PERS C/B&F/AS			up hms	
12.	DD/FBIS		3 Jan	B	
13.	PO/RA		1/9	Am	
14.	C/AG		1/11	me	
15.	Exec. Reg.				

6 December 1988
FBIS-3021-88

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group
FROM : Chief, Austria Bureau
SUBJECT : Monthly Report - Austria Bureau - November 1988

I. GENERAL

Dollar decline accelerated slightly in November with the average exchange rate falling to 12.43 Austrian schillings to one dollar from 13.02 to 1 in October. The dollar hit a low of AS 12.16 to 1 during the month. As one consequence of the decline, the Vienna Post Allowance was increased to 25 from 20 effective 20 November.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. The Bureau's Romanian Section acquitted itself well in covering the RCP plenum that began on the 28th. The section received well deserved praise from the BBC for its "excellent" handling of the 4-and-3/4 hour opening speech by Ceausescu.

2. For the first time since coverage of the FRG was assumed a live relay of a Bundestag debate was covered from West German radio on 10 November. In addition to texting Chancellor Kohl's government statement on his recent trip to Moscow, AU's German Section quickly processed the speeches by Foreign Minister Genscher and opposition leader Vogel.

3. AU's Yugoslav Section continued to feel a high degree of pressure from events in Yugoslavia. Reporting on numerous protests and demonstrations together with a large share of coverage of the 21-23 November Serbian LC conference kept the section busy for most of the month.

4. Arrangements were made with the embassy in Belgrade to videorecord TV coverage of the Serbian-Montenegrin rally in protest against Albanian nationalism on the 19th. The recordings were sent to London Bureau via DHL for onward relay to Headquarters over Internet.

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B. Communications

Communications circuit outages totaled 7 hours 34 minutes in November. All but 1 hour 13 minutes of these involved the circuit between Vienna and Bonn.

C. Lateral Services

1. In response to an Embassy request, the Bureau provided a copy of the 2 November Moscow PRAVDA to the Ambassador's office. The Ambassador was interested in seeing the original of an article cited in a TASS item filed by London reporting a speech he had given in Innsbruck.

2. Photocopies of two articles in the September issue of the Soviet journal MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN were forwarded to CSCE Ambassador Zimmerman at his request on 10 November.

3. On 9 November the Bureau received an urgent call from the Embassy Political Section seeking confirmation of a report that the U.S. Ambassador in Khartoum had been kidnapped. The caller was about to brief the Ambassador on the incident. Fortunately, we were able to quickly advise that it was the UAE ambassador, not the U.S. ambassador, that was the target of the attack.

D. Technical

1. The Bureau-developed "CHECKSUM" program was submitted to Headquarters for ERB approval.

2. One Cannon PC-25 copier (\$1,185) was received during the month and installed in the vault.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. Two monitors received promotions effective 20 November; Yugoslav monitor [redacted] from FBN-07/02 to FBN-08/01, and Bulgarian Monitor [redacted] from FBN-08/04 to FBN-09/03.

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2. The following personnel received PSI's effective 6 November: [redacted] (to FBN-07/02), [redacted] (to FBN-08/03), [redacted] (to FBN-09/02), [redacted] (to FBN-08/03) and [redacted] (to FBN-09/03). Monitor Technician [redacted] received an LSI to FBN-09/11 effective 20 November.

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3. Senior Polish Monitor [redacted] retired effective COB 30 November after more than 30 years of service with FBIS and the Bureau.

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B. Building and Grounds

1. One of the final steps in upgrading the Bureau's electrical wiring was completed during the month with the replacement and rewiring of the 220 volt fuse panel.

2. A continuing project to separate power and RF cabling in the Bureau and channel as much of it as possible under the floor was begun in the German and Czech sections. These areas and the second floor landing will also receive new carpeting and fresh paint.

IV. VISITS

The Bureau Chief and Chief Engineer visited the Brindisi facility from 14 to 16 and 14 to 18 November respectively.



Chief, Austria Bureau

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cc: Chief, FBIS London Bureau

Attachments:

Production Report
Staff Personnel Report
Non-Staff Personnel Report